Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-2 and amend claims 3-15 and 20, as shown in the listing of claims that follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-2 (canceled).

3. (Currently amended) ~~The mutant Rhabdovirus according to claim 2 that is a~~ A mutant vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) having the mutation ΔM51 in the gene encoding the matrix (M) protein.

4. (Currently amended) The mutant VSV according to claim 3, ~~wherein said~~ comprising one or more ~~mutation is M51R, M51A, M51-54A, ΔM51,~~ mutations in the gene encoding the matrix (M) protein selected from the group consisting of ~~M51R, M51A, M51--54A, ΔM51,~~ ΔM51-54, ΔM51-57, V221F, S226R, ΔV221-S226, ~~M51X,~~ V221X, S226X, or a combination thereof.

5. (Currently amended) The mutant VSV according to claim 3, ~~wherein said one or more mutation is a double mutation~~ comprising one or more mutations in the gene encoding the matrix (M) protein selected from the group consisting of: ~~M51R/V221F; M51A/V221F; M51-54A/V221F;~~ ΔM51/V221F; ΔM51-54/V221F; ΔM51-57/V221F; ~~M51R/S226R; M51A/S226R; M51-54A/S226R;~~ ΔM51/S226R; ΔM51-54/S226R, and ΔM51-57/S226R

6. (Currently amended) The mutant VSV according to claim 3, ~~wherein said~~ comprising one or more ~~mutation is a triple mutation~~ mutations in the gene encoding the matrix (M) protein selected from the group consisting of:

~~M51R/V221F/S226R; M51A/V221F/S226R; M51-54A/V221F/S226R;~~
ΔM51/V221F/S226R; ΔM51-54/V221F/S226R and ΔM51-57/V221F/ S226R.

7. (Currently amended) The mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1, 2 or 3,~~ wherein said one or more ~~mutation~~ mutations further results in a modulation of the interaction of the M protein with mitochondria in a host cell.

8. (Currently amended) The mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV according to claim 1, ~~any one of claims 1, 2 or 3,~~ wherein said mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV is capable of triggering the production of one or more ~~cytokine~~ cytokines in an infected cell.

9. (Currently amended) A viral vector comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

10. (Currently amended) The viral vector according to claim 9 ~~5~~, further comprising a heterologous nucleic acid.

11. (Currently amended) A vaccine vector comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell~~ and a heterologous nucleic acid encoding one or more antigens ~~antigen, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

12. (Currently amended) A vaccine adjuvant comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more~~

~~mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier~~, said mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV being capable of triggering the production of one or more ~~cytokine~~ cytokines in an infected cell~~, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

13. (Currently amended) A selective oncolytic agent comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell and optionally a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

14. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

15. (Currently amended) An immunogenic composition comprising a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell~~ and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, said mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV being capable of triggering the production of one or more ~~cytokine~~ cytokines in an infected cell~~, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.

16. (Withdrawn) Use of the mutant Rhabdovirus according to claim 8 as an additive for pharmaceutical preparations of viruses to protect against virulent revertants arising in said preparation.

17. (Withdrawn) Use of the mutant Rhabdovirus according to claim 8 in the treatment of a disease or disorder that can be alleviated by cytokine release.

18. (Withdrawn) The use according to claim 17, wherein said disease or disorder is cancer, bacterial infection, viral infection or fungal infection.

19. (Withdrawn) Use of the viral vector according to claim 10 for delivery of said heterologous nucleic acid to a subject in need thereof.

20. (Currently amended) A kit comprising one or more containers and a mutant ~~Rhabdovirus~~ VSV having the mutation ΔM51 in the gene encoding the matrix (M) protein ~~one or more mutation in a gene encoding a protein involved in blocking nuclear transport of mRNA or protein in an infected cell, wherein said one or more mutation results in the mutant Rhabdovirus having a decreased ability to block nuclear transport of mRNA or protein when compared to the wild-type virus~~.